Patient Information Sheet: Self-Referral MRI

Thank you for considering a self-referral for an MRI scan at the Opus Diagnostics clinic.
This information sheet will provide you with important details about the process and limitations of the MRI scan. Please read it carefully before proceeding.

1. **Purpose of the MRI**:
An MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) scan is a non-invasive medical imaging procedure that uses a powerful magnetic field and radio waves to create detailed images of the inside of your body. It helps in diagnosing and monitoring various medical conditions.

2. **Self-Referral Process:**
By choosing a self-referral MRI, you have the convenience of directly scheduling your scan without a referral from a healthcare provider. However, please note that the results of your MRI will be sent to your doctor for further evaluation and discussion. You may also request a consultation with one of our private doctors to discuss your results (at an additional cost).

3. **Limitations of the type of MRI available to self-referrals:**
a. Restricted Scanning Areas: Our self-referral MRI service is limited to scanning joints (MSK, knees, ankles, hips and upper limbs) and spines only. We do not perform MRI scans of the brain, liver, kidneys, abdomen, or any other areas without referrals from a medical clinician.
b. Exclusion of Certain Patients: If you have had previous monitoring or any medical condition that requires monitoring, we may not be able to perform the MRI scan. Please consult with your healthcare provider to determine if an MRI is suitable for you.

4. **Benefits and Risks:**
a. Benefits: MRI scans provide detailed images that can aid in the diagnosis and treatment of various conditions. It is a safe and painless procedure that does not involve radiation.
b. Risks: MRI scans are generally safe; however, they may not be suitable for individuals with certain medical devices or implants, such as pacemakers or

cochlear implants. Please inform us of any such devices or implants before scheduling your scan.

5. **Accessing Your Results:**
Once your MRI scan is complete, the results will be sent a radiologist for review and interpretation, he/she will produce a written report. You and your GP will receive the report by secure email. You will also have access to your results and images via our secure mobile application. Please ensure you have provided accurate contact information during the registration process.

6. **Preparation for the MRI:**
a. Clothing: Please wear comfortable, loose-fitting clothing without any metal objects, such as zippers, buttons, or jewellery. You may be provided with a gown to wear during the scan.
b. Metal Objects: Remove all metal objects, including watches, jewellery, hairpins, and hearing aids, before entering the MRI room. These objects can interfere with the magnetic field and cause artefacts in the images.
c. Food and Medications: Unless instructed otherwise, you may eat and take your medications as usual before the scan.

7. **Appointment and Arrival:**
Please arrive at the clinic at least 10 minutes before your designated time for your MRI appointment. Late arrival may result in rescheduling. Our staff will guide you through the process and answer any questions you may have.

8. Please be aware if you have not paid for your scan through the on-line portal you will have to pay for your scan on arrival. If on the very rare chance your scan cannot go ahead, you will receive a full refund.

We hope this information has clarified the self-referral MRI process. If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our facility.

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